

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for using a mobile telephone to retrieve information about an article provided by a first distributor, comprising:

a camera, associated with said mobile telephone, that records an image of at least a portion of said article; and

a database, remote from said mobile telephone and synchronized with at least another database associated with a second distributor of said article, wherein said database that interprets said image to identify said article and, based thereon, supplies information about said article from said database and said another database to said mobile telephone based thereon.

2. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said image is received from said mobile telephone via a selected one of:

an infrared connection, and

a direct radio link.

3. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said information includes a price of said article from said first distributor and said second distributor direct radio link conforms to a standard selected from the group consisting of:

Bluetooth,

WLAN, and

HomeRF/SWAP.

4. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said image contains coded data and said coded data is decoded in a server associated with said database.

5. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said mobile telephone contains software that defines a structure corresponding to said database.

6. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said image contains coded data and said coded data is contained in a barcode.

7. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said mobile telephone acoustically provides said information to a user-a-selected-one of:

visually, and

acoustically.

8. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said information comprises price information and said information is transmitted back to said mobile telephone via a selected one of:

Multimedia Message Service (MMS), and

email.

9. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 8 wherein said database contains said price information in at least two different currencies.

10. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein a memory in said mobile telephone stores data pertaining to a plurality of articles and said image is a video sequence.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of using a mobile telephone to retrieve information about an article, comprising:

recording an image of at least a portion of said article with a camera associated with said mobile telephone;

interpreting said image to identify said article; and

supplying information about said article to said mobile telephone based thereon, said information from multiple distributors of said article.

12. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said image is received from said mobile telephone via a selected one of:

an infrared connection, and

a direct radio link.

13. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 12 wherein said direct radio link conforms to a standard selected from the group consisting of:

Bluetooth,

WLAN, and

HomeRF/SWAP.

14. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said image contains coded data, said method further comprising decoding said coded data in a server associated with said database.

15. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said mobile telephone contains software that defines a structure corresponding to said database.

16. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said image contains coded data and said coded data is contained in a barcode.

17. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising providing, with said mobile telephone, said information to a user a selected one of:

visually, and

acoustically.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said information comprises price information of said article from said multiple distributors and said information is transmitted back to said mobile telephone via a selected one of:

Multimedia Message Service (MMS), and
email.

19. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 18 wherein said database contains said price information in at least two different currencies.

20. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising storing, in a memory in said mobile telephone, data pertaining to a plurality of articles and said image is a video sequence.

21. (Currently Amended) A mobile telephone, comprising:
a camera;
software that receives an image of at least a portion of an article from said camera, interprets said image to identify said article and queues data based thereon for transmission to a database remote from said mobile telephone; and
a display that receives and displays information about said article from multiple databases,
including said database, associated with multiple distributors of said article.